

# FALL LEAGUE 2008 SOFTBALL

## LODI PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

125 N. Stockton St., Lodi, California 95240

333-6742

333-6744 for field conditions

[www.lodi.gov](http://www.lodi.gov)

This is full schedule for all divisions. You are scheduled for eight league games. You may not play every opponent in your division an equal number of games. **If games are postponed due to rain or field conditions, your rescheduled game may not be on your regular night of league play.**

***Park at your own risk....Beware of fly balls striking your vehicle in the City's parking lots.***

Bats that have been altered are not allowed for use in the Lodi Adult League. All bats must be marked with the official ASA certification mark. All bats must have been manufactured since 2000. To check to see which bats are approved for use, please go to: [www.softball.org/about/certified\\_equipment.asp](http://www.softball.org/about/certified_equipment.asp)

Slow pitch arc will be 6 to 12 feet, measured from the ground in all leagues and divisions. Violation will be as rulebook states.

**PITCHERS will be allowed to pitch from a position directly behind the pitcher's plate (pitching rubber) but still in line with home plate and second base.**

### Alcohol

**By City of Lodi ordinance, possession of alcohol in glass or aluminum containers is no longer allowed anywhere inside the park or parking lot.**

A player cannot leave the dugout during the game to sip on their beer in the stands. You are welcome to buy a beer following your game, but if you are caught drinking in the park before or during your game, you will be ejected. If you are going to drink, please drink responsibly.

There will be zero tolerance for foul language. I have instructed all officials and their assignors or coordinators to eject players and/or coaches when they hear it. There will be no warnings. As a team manager, you are responsible for letting your **players and spectators** know what the standard is. You might get away with muttering under your breath when you strike out or make a mistake, but if the official can hear it, your opponent or the fans may hear it, and you will probably be ejected. I'm pleased that so many players are bringing their families with them to games, but we will not allow swearing in front of children or spectators. Keep yourself on good behavior, and stay in the game.

Playoffs will be offered in all leagues and all divisions. The first and second place teams will play for the championship. In case of ties in league records, the first tie-breaker will be head to head, the second tie-breaker will be the average of runs per game allowed against the team with which you are tied, the third tie-breaker will be the average of runs per game allowed against all teams in official games, and the fourth tie-breaker will be a coin flip. If a three way tie exists, and the tie breaker eliminates one team, the system starts again with the first tie-breaker. Any use of illegal players or automatic losses due to non-rostered players makes your team ineligible for playoffs.

1. Mercy Rules: If a team is ahead by twenty (20) runs after four innings or fifteen(15) runs after five or more innings, the game will be called and that team will be declared the winner, ***unless both teams agree to continue.*** If the home team is at bat and ahead when time expires, the game will be called.
2. All mens or womens slow pitch games: The batter will begin their at bat with a one ball, one strike count. ***You are allowed one foul ball when you have two strikes, but a second foul ball and you're out!***

3. Batting through the bench is available at all levels of play; fast and slow, recreation and competitive. A team can choose to use this rule or not; it is not required that both teams in a game use it. A manager must declare, prior to game time on his line-up card, if he will be taking advantage of this rule. This allows for a manager to let all players bat throughout the game, positions 1 through 16, for example. If he chooses to bat through the bench, late arrivals must be added to the bottom of the order. If a player is injured or leaves the game before it is completed, his spot in the order will be skipped, and he is not declared out for missing his turn at bat. *If he is ejected, an out will be charged each time that his spot in the order comes to bat.* If a manager chooses to bat 1 through 12, with three subs not in the hitting line-up, he can later substitute those players for those in the batting order. A team may let one player play defense and not hit. Players who bat out of order would still suffer the consequences of a proper appeal.

4. Free substitution on defense is available at all levels of play. This allows for the manager to make substitutions at the end of the half-inning. For a team to use this rule, they must bat through the bench.

5. You pay & you play. Teams must start and finish the game with six (6) legal players from your team's roster. You may start with six players, for example, and it will be an official game.

6. Game Time & Line-up cards. Forfeit time is game time, as published in this schedule. Line-up cards are available from the scorekeeper prior to the start of your game. These are required to be filled out properly and **turned in ten minutes** before the scheduled game time. The manager must list the batting order with the players' first and last names. The manager must declare if he is using the batting through the bench rule. All players must be on the official roster. The manager must sign the line-up card. **A team whose manager uses non-rostered players will not be eligible for the playoffs.**

**Players must show their photo identification, when requested by city staff, in cases of player eligibility. Refusal to do so means automatic ejection from the game. Managers are responsible for their players and roster.**

7. Time limits. The time limit rule means no new inning will start after the time limit has been reached. The time limits are 55 minutes in slow pitch. This is measured from the time of the third out that ends the inning.

8. Extra innings and tie-breaking rule. If a game is tied at the end of an inning and the time limit has been reached, the score will be recorded as a tie and is final. If the time limit has not been reached, extra innings will be allowed until the time limit has been reached. In the extra inning, the offensive team will start with a runner on second base; the runner will be the last player to bat in the previous inning.

9. Players may play on TWO teams, but must be on the roster of both teams. If you play for more than one team in a league (i.e., mens competitive slow pitch), **the team in the higher division is the only team that is eligible for the playoffs. You cannot "fill in" for a second team in your division. This applies to both men and women players.**

10. Slow pitch arc will be 6 to 12 feet, measured from the ground. Violation will be as rulebook states.

11. Slow pitch strikes will be called when the ball lands on the plate or mat. Debating ball and strike calls may result in immediate ejection.

12. Metal spikes or cleats are not allowed.

13. Game balls are provided by the Lodi Parks and Recreation Dept. The offensive team will be required to return balls hit foul or hit for home runs. Women's slow pitch will use an 11" ball (circumference). Coed games are played with women hitting an 11" and men hitting a 12" safety ball.

14. Being ejected from a game will include being ineligible to play in your next scheduled game for that team, and any other game before that time.

Home run rule: In all men's, women's and coed slow pitch games, the equalizer rule is in effect for all levels, and begins with the first pitch. Your team may only hit one more home run than the other team has hit. All additional home runs after the limit are recorded as one out.

For example, the visiting team may hit one home run in the top of the first inning, and the home team may hit two in the bottom of the first. If the home team does not hit a home run, the visiting team will not be able to hit another home run.

**HOME RUN SPEED UP RULE** When a player hits a home run, only the batter needs to advance to first base, and all runners may advance one base, before returning to the dugout. This will help speed up the game.

## FIELD ADDRESSES

Complex North and Complex South: 401 N. Stockton Street; Tom Chapman Field at Armory Park: 333 N. Washington Street

## PLAYER ADDITIONS

Players can be added to your rosters by (1) having the player sign a player addition form and submitting it to the office or the scorekeeper in advance of the second game, or (2) after your team has played their second game, signing a player addition form and getting the signatures of the majority of the other manager's in your division, and then submitting the form to the office. All player additions require a \$5.00 fee per player.